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VOLUME 9
No. 1



September
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THE MACDONALD COLLEGE JOURNAL



Pulling the Strings Together

A good many jobs are never properly finished because they've been tackled in a piece-meal way. A problem arises—and what seems to be the easiest solution is applied. From time to time other problems come up, and each is considered separately as it appears, and is tackled independently.

Often is isn't until much later that we find that several of these problems are closely inter-related, and all sorts of complications appear. One thing runs into another—which solution should be applied? There is considerable duplication, and big blind spots where nothing is being done. We can see examples of this on most farms, in local communities, and even in colleges and governments.

So it should be an occasion for rejoicing when we see an attempt made to co-ordinate all the work in related fields. Probably the best example of this is the Tennessee Valley Authority, which has integrated the development of agriculture, power, shipping, fishing, mining, forestry, industry, recreation and wild life. That this approach has had beneficial and far-reaching results is conceded even by those residents of the Tennessee Valley who were originally its bitter opponents.

Nowhere else has all-over integration of industries and resources been accomplished. There is a possibility that a Missouri Valley Authority may be set up; but it's very doubtful if its work will be as all-embracing as that of the TVA. And the Soil Conservation Service in the U.S. and the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act in Western Canada have had only one major objective—the improvement of agriculture.

Probably our closest approach to the TVA concept is the New Brunswick Resources Development Board. Even there the resemblance isn't very great—the only meeting-point seems to be in the general concept. The Resources Development Board doesn't include agriculture in its terms of reference, nor has it any power to put its recommendations into force. Nevertheless, the mere existence of the board, with its ability to survey broad sections of the province's natural resources and recommend methods of integrated development, is a big forward step.

Most people are susceptible to progressive ideas when exposed to them; and the recommendations of the N.B. board should not only result in direct action, but they should start a lot of thinking in fields completely outside the scope of the board.

The big hope arising out of the board's work is that it will demonstrate a pattern for a scientific approach to natural resources—a pattern that will ripple out in ever-widening circles.

Our big problem in connection with natural resources isn't that nobody knows what should be done. We have a great deal of sound information on specific points. But unfortunately there's no one to gather all this information together, consider each point in relation to all the others, and draw up a workable program considering all the resources.

No super-organism is needed to produce the framework for such a project. We already have practically all the necessary elements in the form of farm organizations, companies, trade associations, scientific researchers and government administrators. All that's needed now is a small central organization to collect information and recommendations from each of these, digest and summarize them, and send the summaries back for further comment.

In a relatively short time it should be possible to outline a skeleton program that could be used as a guide in voluntarily organizing activities in a more intelligent way. Thus, without compulsion or coercion it would be possible to launch a program that would ensure the future of our resources and our people.

Our Cover Picture

"Getting Acquainted" seems to be the only title we could think of for our cover picture this month. The photo was taken by E. W. Crampton on the farm of Mr. Dillingham on the Ste. Marie Road not far from Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

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Progress in the Potato Belt

With commercial yields of over 300 bushels an acre, potato growers in the Saint John Valley are now turning their attention to expanding their markets and ensuring future yields through better soil management.

IT'S wheat on the southern prairies, and potatoes in the Saint John Valley. From Edmundston down to Woodstock almost every farm has its extensive fields of potatoes, and its potato storehouse. On many the storehouse seems to have superseded the barn, for there are few livestock in this section of New Brunswick.

In Carleton and Victoria counties, which have a big share of the province's total acreage, yields average over 300 bushels an acre. To get these high yields it's not at all unusual for growers to apply well over a ton of commercial fertilizer an acre. The mixtures they use are mostly expensive ones like 1-4-8-10; the unusual 1 represents the magnesium content, for most of the soils in this section are low in magnesium, and many of the fertilizer mixtures include it.

There were excellent crop prospects in the Saint John Valley this summer, but the potato growers were uneasy. They knew that they were very vulnerable to falling markets, their crops were vulnerable to disease and the land was vulnerable to erosion. The more progressive growers are becoming uncomfortably aware of these dangers, and are trying to do something about them. They have a good precedent in soil conservation just across the Maine border in Aroostook county, and good leadership in crop management and disease control from the N.B. Department of Agriculture. And 1,550 potato men have banded together in the N.B. Potato Growers' Council to improve their production and expand their markets.

Aroostook county has supplied a good lead in land management. Some of the U.S. growers have followed the example of the Federal Demonstration Farm at Fort Fairfield, where fields are laid out on the contour, with terraced strips and diversion ditches. Many of them, too, have chosen peas as an extra cash crop which will also increase the nitrogen and humus in their soil and cut down fertilizer bills. But most of the potato fields we saw in Maine looked very much like those on our side of the border. They were planted up and down the slopes, and after a heavy rain we saw a big accumulation of fine soil in the hollows—striking evidence of soil erosion.

New Brunswick may soon be more conservation-conscious than Maine. This summer the N.B. Department of Agriculture sent an agricultural engineer, Craig Leuty, across the border to study conservation methods in the

U.S. On his return he set to work drawing up plans to stop erosion on N.B. farms, under an arrangement whereby farmers agree to co-operate with the provincial government in conservation work. In Carleton county A. E. Raymond, the agricultural representative, lined up an observation trip across the border for farmers interested in this scheme. And Harold Rogers, agricultural representative in Victoria county, had 18 farmers ready to co-operate.

The N.B. plan is to demonstrate conservation methods by laying out one field on each co-operating farm. The farms were surveyed this summer, and the field work is to begin next year. The farmer will supply the tractor and driver, and the N.B. department will provide bulldozers, open ditchers, tile ditchers and terracers to lay out the fields according to Mr. Leuty's plans.

The fields will be divided into strips not over 100 feet wide, following the contour of the slopes. Then the



A 3-inch deposit of fine soil washed down the slope in a shower is examined by Dr. R. H. Common of Macdonald College.

farmers will follow recommended rotations, the length of the rotation depending somewhat on the number of strips in the field. For example, a four-strip field will be suitable for a four-year rotation of potatoes, grain seeded down, clover hay and timothy hay. Limestone is needed on most of the land to grow clover, and will be applied in the fall after the potatoes have been harvested.

With one field laid out for soil conservation, a farmer and his neighbors can see how ease of cultivation, crop yields and erosion control compare with the surrounding fields. If the contoured fields show up much better on any one of these three counts it won't be long before a great many farmers will want to contour their land.

Some growers are already following a four-year rotation including two years of hay. In Carleton, where red clover is generally used, they get an extra cash crop; after

taking off an early cut for hay they harvest the second growth for seed. But a good many others still seem to be using their land for potatoes every second or third year.

The inclusion of more grass and legumes in the rotation would, of course, mean finding some use for its product; and many people are beginning to believe that it could best be used right at home. Livestock would make good use of it, provide manure for the fields and stabilize the agriculture of the region. So far there is only one calf club in Victoria county—a Holstein club started this spring—but Harold Rogers hopes to get more going, so that the next generation of farmers will be more livestock-conscious. And the district veterinary services at Woodstock and Perth should add impetus toward this livestock movement.

About half the commercial potato acreage in N.B. is represented on the Potato Growers' Council, of which H. B. Grandlemire, Hartland, is president and managing director. Just reorganized this spring, the council's immediate program is to inaugurate a disease control area in the valley, where only certified or better seed will be used. The council will also try to persuade the government to stabilize prices.

Most of its activities are along the lines of the provincial potato program spearheaded by G. C. Cunningham, Director of Potato Production and Marketing. Under his guidance the quality of N.B. potatoes has improved until it's now internationally recognized. Last year every province in Canada except Prince Edward Island imported certified seed from N.B.—and so did 15 other countries. Under the system of tuber-unit planting, and roguing, combined with plot testing, varieties are kept remarkably true to type and free from disease. Of the 1,112 farmers growing certified seed last year, 494 had tuber-unit seed plots.

N.B. farmers have shown remarkable initiative in asking for advance testing of their seed. Ever since 1945 certified growers have had samples of their next spring's seed grown in test plots in Florida during the winter, to find out whether it should be used the next season. Plots are also maintained at the Dominion Experimental Farm, Fredericton, to check on differences between Florida and local conditions, so as to give a practical interpretation of Florida results.

In crop management, Mr. Cunningham recommends early planting, early roguing and early harvesting to control the spread of disease. Aphids do not become numerous until August; and if potatoes are planted early they can be rogued before the aphids appear, and harvested before the aphids have much chance to spread disease.

But there is still the need to spray from four to seven times a year for insects. The old Bordeaux mixture is giving way to a mix consisting of 3 parts of DDT to 5 or 7 parts of neutral copper, in 100 gallons of water. And the old type sprayer that covered only the top of the leaves is being superseded by the Slosser boom, that also sprays from below, to catch the insects where they congregated on the lower side of the leaves.

TOUGH AS CROCODILE HIDE



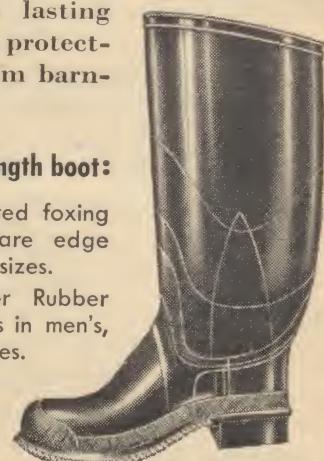
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A New Phase in Eastern Farming

What Happened in Quebec

Cash income on Quebec farms more than doubled during the war. This gain was largely due to an intensified livestock program that relied on huge imports of feed grain for use with home-grown hay. There are four possible ways of stabilizing this production for the future.

by J. E. Lattimer

THE great expansion in Canadian farm output during the war was due, not to the introduction of new land and labour, but to reorganization within the industry. When wartime conditions created a scarcity of farm labour and tripled wages, farmers expanded their use of the less expensive things that go into production—land and capital.

In Quebec there was a great increase in mechanization, particularly tractors and milking machines. Yet on the small farms that are typical of Quebec there is a limit to the degree of mechanization that is profitable. So, for much of its increased production, Quebec had to turn to more intensive farming. The type of intensification it used was the expansion of live stock production on purchased feeds.

Percent Change in Cash Revenue for Agriculture

	1940-46	Over	1926-30	
N.B.	114%	N.S.	73%	
B.C.	114%	Ont.	56%	
Quebec	110%	Sask.	36%	
Man.	85%	Alta.	33%	
P.E.I.	75%			

Comparing the annual increase in cash revenue from agriculture between 1926-30 and 1940-46 by provinces we find that Quebec compares very favourably with the others. The provinces where the change was over 100%, together with Nova Scotia, are deficit areas in regard to food products. In these areas, animal products are of greater importance than grain in type of farming followed. The type of farming had a great influence on results during this time.

Prices of Farm Products

1935-1939 base

	Total	Canadian Farm Products	Field and Vegetable	Animal Products
1926-1930	135.9	137.1	134.8	
1931-1935	77.3	71.9	82.6	
1936-1940	101.4	100.2	102.5	
1941-1946	143.3	128.6	158.1	

In the first period animal products were at a slight disadvantage. But during the later three periods it was the other way; and during the last period the difference was almost 30 points in favour of animal products. This goes a considerable distance in explaining the record of Quebec during this period. Whether this advantage will continue is quite another story. It will depend on the policy of the price makers.

The more important point for our purpose is the method by which the increase in output was brought about in Quebec. From 1926 to 1945 the output of creamery butter in Quebec doubled; the record was 44 million pounds in 1926 and 88 million in 1945. The value was \$15 million in 1926; and double the quantity in 1945 was worth \$33 million. This works out to 34 cents per pound in 1926 and 38 cents per pound in 1945. In 1932 when the output was 65 million pounds it was worth \$12 million, equal to only 18 cents per pound. This may help to explain the recent butter shortage.

Also important is the increased use of milk in fluid form which accounts for an ever-increasing proportion of the supply, and leaves less proportionately for butter production.

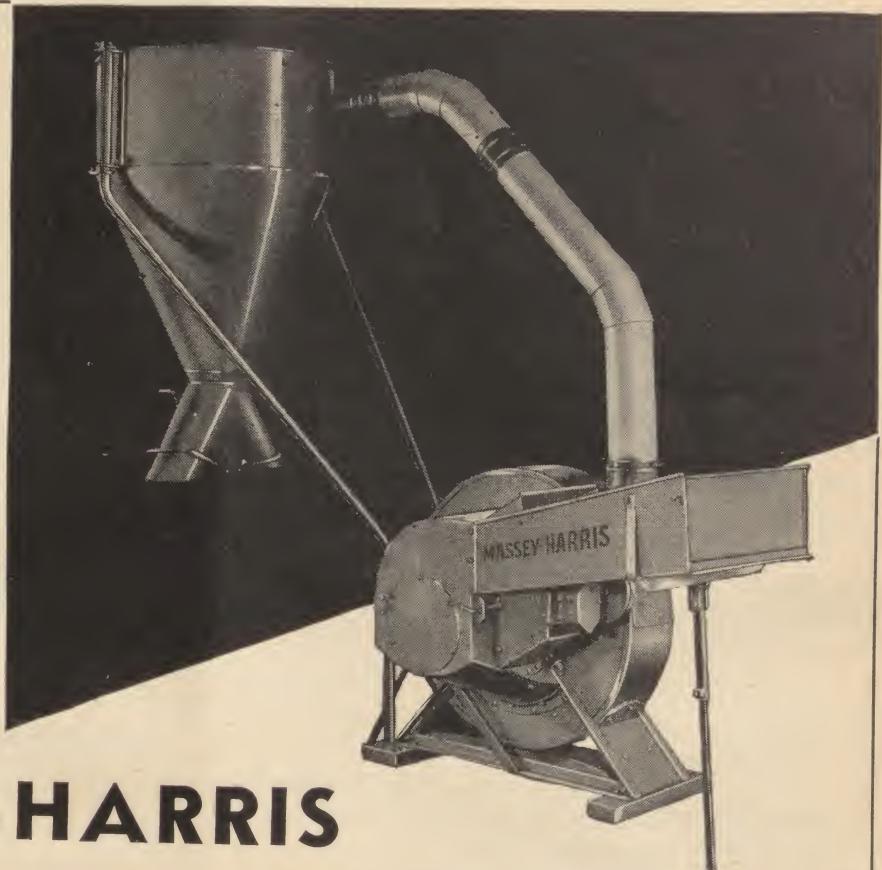
The point here is the increased dairy production of the period. This increase was not due to any marked increase in number of cows. The high point reached in number of cows in the provinces was in 1928 when the number reported was 1,114,000, the second highest number in 1945 at 1,104,000. These Bureau of Statistics figures record over a million cows in the province from 1926 to 1930, less than one million from 1931 to 1938 and again over a million since that time. No doubt price of dairy products has some influence on the output, though there are few production processes or assembly lines that record the stability that is shown by the number of milk cows in the province.

Some other phases of farming are not so uniform. The



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Live Stock Marketings—Quebec and Montreal Prices

	CATTLE Number	Weighted Price per Cwt.	HOGS Number	Price per Cwt. \$
5 year average 1926-1930.....	43,383	5.78	105,010	11.78
5 year average 1931-1935.....	34,755	3.54	97,466	6.97
5 year average 1936-1940.....	52,022	4.60	347,312	8.76
5 year average 1941-1945.....	79,773	6.81	512,026	16.36(1)

(1) Dressed Weight.

record of number of live stock marketed shows more variation.

These figures overstate the record to a great degree. During the last period the practice of rail grading of hogs was adopted. This change in the method of marketing lessened the proportion handled by local butchers, which accounted for a lot of hogs, in the province prior to the adoption of rail grading. No doubt during the first half of the thirties marketings were low in both cattle and hogs due to the price. Yet even when these points are considered the expansion of live stock and particularly hogs remains impressive.

Feeding hogs on purchased feeds for an export market was one of the outstanding achievements of Quebec farming during the war. It was well under way prior to the war as the record of the last half of the thirties indicates. During the thirties feeding hogs was the most remunerative farming activity in returns per hour of man-labour reported by the Quebec Demonstration Farms, where accounts were recorded of all farm operations.

During the war years there was a great increase in the amount of feed brought into Quebec. From 1941 to the end of 1945 the number of tons of feed on which freight assistance was paid totalled 3,985,101. This, for a period of 4 years and 3 months averages 940,000 tons annually or about 6 tons of feed for the 155,000 odd farms per year during this time, supposing that all of them purchased feed. In reality many farms purchase little so that the average for those purchasing feed would run well above 6 tons.

This brings up the question of whether it is necessary or wise to depend to such a great degree on raw material from a distance for our farming operations. This is the wrong approach to the subject. The policies of growing more and purchasing more may both be followed as these policies are supplementary rather than competitive.

The more grain grown, the more will be purchased to balance the ration. The more purchased the more may be grown as fertility is thus built up. The bulk of the grain purchased is used, in normal times, for the production of a regular supply of fluid milk which must be produced near centres of population. During the war years the conversion of raw materials from a distance into meat and dairy products for export was greatly expanded. This experience may supply a good basis for considering future policy.

Summary and Suggestions

1. Cash income on Quebec farms was 110 percent more annually in the years from 1941 to 1946 than in the five pre-war years.
2. The increase was largely due to converting raw material—in the form of grain from a distance—into meat and dairy products for export.
3. Intensification of this nature depends upon the relative prices of grain and meat and dairy products.
4. The higher prices of animal as compared with vegetable products gave feeders an advantage during the war years.
5. Purchasing and growing feed are not antagonistic but rather supplementary policies. The more grown the more purchased, and the more purchased the more can be grown.
6. Future policy for Quebec agriculture should be to secure a suitable, dependable supply of raw material for feeders as cheaply as possible.
7. This may be done by several methods—
 - (a) Improving hay and pasture crops to lessen requirements for purchased feed.
 - (b) Increasing production of home grown grain.
 - (c) Providing as economical transport as possible from distant points.
 - (d) Farmers themselves can cut their costs of purchased feeds by buying in bulk rather than in small quantities.

Demonstration of Farm Equipment

The buildings and spacious grounds of the Provincial Dairy School at St. Hyacinthe were placed at the disposal of the Massey-Harris Company and of Mr. Jean Legare last month for demonstrations of the latest in farm equipment of all kinds. The Director of the school, Dr. Berard, and the farm manager, Mr. Philippe Granger, spared no effort to make the demonstrations a success.

A large number of farmers of the district, specially invited for the occasion, were impressed with the display and came away convinced that the proper machinery could increase their production, reduce costs and save time and effort when properly used. Included in the demonstration fleet were tractors, cultivators, sprayers, green forage cutters, and the "Seaman Triple-Tiller" which, its manufacturers claim, can do all the work now done by a plow and harrows and do it better and, of course, faster, since one trip over any kind of ground leaves it deeply tilled.

People Worth Watching



LOUIS HEBERT

Canada's First Farmer

Canada's first farmer was a chemist from Paris. That may have seemed rather incongruous back in 1617, when Louis Hébert first broke sod for a field where the Hotel de Ville of Quebec City now stands. But to the farmers who visit his monument in front of the city hall, it all makes sense. Today's farmer who draws good returns, while maintaining the producing ability of his land, must be very much a chemist.

A great deal has happened in the world since Louis Hébert forsook his chemist's shop for the life of a farmer in the New World. There was the American Revolution, the French Revolution and, after minor skirmishes, two world wars with the Russian Revolution sandwiched in between. But while human affairs have been erupting like volcanoes, scientists have made great progress in learning how to control and use the chemical elements of our world; and nowhere more than in farming.

Today the intelligent farmer supplies his land with the chemicals it needs to produce the best returns. He also supplies the other materials needed to produce the best results from the chemicals, and to leave the land in good condition for future crops and future generations. His aim is to produce, not just so much yield, but a crop of a certain chemical composition, to command the top price.

Any farmer who recognizes the great possibilities of chemicals in farming is well on the way to success. If he also recognizes the complications that may arise from their improper use, he is indeed one of the People Worth Watching.

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4-H Club work is a specialized educational enterprise for U.S. rural youth. It shares the objectives common to all educational institutions and movements in its concern with the development of individual abilities and capacities for learning, character and qualities of effective leadership.

To prepare tomorrow's citizens physically, mentally and spiritually, 4-H Club work provides opportunities for voluntary participation in programs, built on needs and interests, through which rural boys and girls are:



The raw material.

1. Developing talents for greater usefulness.
2. Joining with friends for work, fun and fellowship.
3. Learning to live in a changing world.
4. Choosing a way to earn a living.
5. Producing food and fibre for home and market.
6. Creating better homes for rural living.
7. Conserving nature's resources for security and happiness.
8. Building health for a strong America.
9. Sharing responsibilities for community improvement.
10. Serving as citizens in maintaining world peace.

Any rural boy or girl within the age limits set by his state extension service, who is able to equip himself to carry on a demonstration of some better farming or home-making activity, may become a member of a 4-H Club. The age limits usually are 10 and 20 years, and the 4-H Club membership is almost 2,000,000 young men and women.

Through the various 4-H Club activities an effort is being made to bring to each member the fine things in rural life and to develop in the young people those attitudes and ideals that make for outstanding manhood and womanhood. Each member keeps a record of costs, labour and results; explains the work to others; makes an exhibit; and writes a final report which summarizes the whole year's work and often recounts the changed attitudes experienced through the activities undertaken.

4-H Club work emphasizes the home. Demonstration work is done on the home farm or in the home of the club members. By trying new ways of doing practical things in his own home environment and checking results

the member makes many improvements in well-established home and farm practices that win the approval of the entire family group and thus make for family solidarity.

This club work also has a definite relationship to the rural community. To an increasing extent rural young people are planning their own programs as an integral part of general community and county extension programs. Volunteer club leaders are encouraged to help rural youth to solve community problems, and to develop a finer philosophy of life. The most successful local leader in the one who knows his community best, particularly the needs, interests and possibilities of its young people.

All the 4-H Club work in a county is under the supervision of a county extension agent. This agent, under the general direction of the State extension office, supervises the organization of 4-H Clubs, guides the formulation of the club program for the year, advises the county 4-H Club council or committee and the local club leaders, conducts such gatherings as county 4-H camps, club picnics, round-ups, exhibits, fairs and achievement days, and generally supervises club work in the county.

The local leaders are residents of the community who assume responsibility for the work of each club. In addition there is usually a county 4-H Club council or sponsoring committee which studies the needs of the county, plans county 4-H activities, plans and carries out an improvement program for all local leaders and performs needed duties as situations change.

The form of local clubs varies. In some states a club is composed of boys and girls doing only one kind of work, and in others the club is a community organization to which all boys and girls may belong, each selecting the line of work most desired. Each club usually has a local leader who is a resident of the community and assumes general responsibility for the work; club officers such as president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, news reporter and chairman of various committees for which a need has been felt, such as program and social committees. Often these local groups affiliate to form a community 4-H Club which, in turn, meets regularly in connection with general club activities.

In organizing a homemaking or agricultural club young people elect their own officers, appoint their own committees, and make up their own programs. Before the election takes place an explanation of the duties of officers and their importance to the success of the club will usually lead the members to vote for those young people most able to do the work required. Officers and members of committees then assume full responsibility.

Throughout, the function of the adult club leader is to study the members of the group carefully so that he may skillfully guide them to react in a constructive way to the different situations that may arise in the group.

The regular meeting is considered the most important part of the club program. It is held at stated intervals, at least once a month and often every two weeks. Most clubs follow a year-round program. Members conduct their business along parliamentary lines; carry out a program they have planned in advance, in which the progress of their respective activities is presented and difficulties are discussed; give demonstrations pertaining to their farm and home-making activities; sing, play and carry on other activities of interest to young people under the guidance of the local leader. Often the county extension agent is present to advise the leader and members and to assist with any problems that may arise.

Programs for 4-H Club meetings usually consist of three parts—business, demonstrations and discussions of project work, and social activities. To carry out such programs successfully, members are interested in varied lines of work, all of which depend largely on their own voluntary efforts.

There are tours, hikes, picnics and other special events to be planned; invitations to people of the community to attend club meetings to discuss the work; reports to be made at general community meetings; encouragement of other young people to join the club; demonstration teams to be selected and trained; local, county and State exhibits to be made; selection of delegates to the county and state encampments and short courses, and invitations to other clubs to attend meetings. Somewhere in these varied programs there is a place for the special talents of every member.

World Farm Organization To Meet At Guelph

Third annual meeting of the international federation of agricultural producers will be held next summer at the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph, and it is expected that some 30 nations will have representatives.

Announcement of the location of the international meeting was made at the semi-annual meeting of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture in Kentville, July 28. The Canadian Federation will play hosts to the international gathering, of which James Turner of England is President, and H. H. Hannam, of the Canadian Federation is a vice-president.

The Ontario government has consented to the use of the agricultural college buildings at Guelph for the conference, and the delegates will be quartered there during the ten days of the meetings, which will open May 29. Before and after the conference, the delegates from the many nations will be taken on tours of Ontario and other parts of Canada.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

MAKING

A NAME . . .

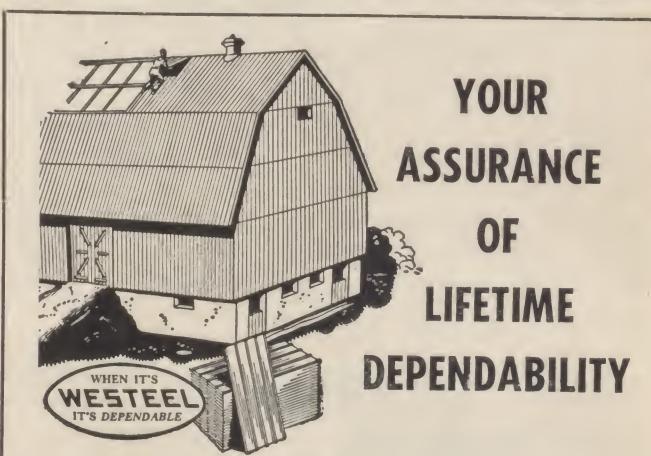
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4107 RICHELIEU STREET - MONTREAL 30, QUE.

He Has \$100 An Acre Cash Outlay

T. E. Walker of Perth, N.B., figures he has to lay out \$100 in cash for every acre of potatoes he grows. His farm is 200 acres, with 75 in hardwood, and most of the balance in a rotation of potatoes, potatoes, grain and hay.

Much of the cost is accounted for by fertilizer. Mr. Walker uses 55 tons 1-4-8-10 (the 1 for magnesium, without which potatoes do not thrive in this part of Victoria county) on 45 acres. In addition he has to pay \$6.00 a day for the kind of help he needs, and he has to give five to seven sprays, depending on the season. He uses a mixture of 7 pounds basic copper and one quart DDT emulsion in 100 gallons of water per acre. With this treatment he has had yields up to 200 barrels—roughly 600 bushels.

Mr. Walker grows two varieties, Katahdin and Green Mountain, using only Foundation and Foundation A seed. But as he has his own tuber unit plots the cash outlay doesn't include anything for seed.

He has fall storage for 4,000 bushels, but has to clear all but 1,400 before the first of December to avoid frost injury. His 1,400 bushel winter storage is heated during periods of excessive cold, and he has a machine to do his own grading and sacking.

His genius for mechanical jobs has saved Mr. Walker considerable expense, too. When we visited him he was spraying a field for a neighbor whose outfit had just broken down. He had converted a horse-drawn sprayer to tractor mounting—a very neat job that would spray eight rows at a time with 300 pounds pressure. And it took him only 1½ minutes to fill the 100 gallon tank with a pump mounted on a truck. This pump was also used to fill the barrel on the truck from a nearby stream. The copper and DDT were added to the water after it was transferred to the sprayer tank.

Mr. Walker had some very nice oats and clover on his farm, and he was considering changing his rotation to include two years of hay instead of growing potatoes two years out of four. He was a little worried about his soil, but found it hard to sacrifice half his potato crop in years when the price was good. Unfortunately, in previous years when the price was very low it had been necessary to grow more potatoes to make a living. In any case, there was some evidence of erosion on his farm, where the rain had washed soil down to the bottom of the slope. There was also a small section where he couldn't grow potatoes, because of poor drainage. But similar land that had been tiled was producing a fine crop, with no sign of erosion.

Quarter Million for Poultry

In 1947 the value of all poultry meats and eggs sold off Canadian farms or farm consumed was valued at \$235,859,000. This figure includes poultry meat of all kinds and eggs produced by urban and rural dwellers not strictly classed as farmers for Census purposes, and also the eggs for hatching. The comparable figure for 1946 was \$203,693,000.

Of the 1947 figure, \$147,884,000 represented the value of eggs, the figure for 1946 being \$124,298,000. Of the poultry meats, chickens and fowl were valued at \$64,993,000 in 1947 and at \$61,934,000 in 1946. Turkey meat in 1947 was valued at \$14,565,000; in 1946 at \$10,140,000. Geese to the value of \$1,521,000 were used in 1947 and in 1946 the value was \$1,169,000. There was an increase in 1947 of duck meat, the value being \$588,000 compared with \$508,000 in 1946.

Domestic consumption of eggs and poultry meats increased in 1947 over the preceding year. The per capita consumption of eggs in 1947 was 24.04 dozen compared with 23.27 dozen in 1946. Over two pounds more chicken per person was eaten on the average in 1947 when the figure was 21.17 pounds. Per capita consumption of turkey, goose and duck was slightly higher.

Tory Award To Farm Forum

National Farm Radio Forum this year received the first Henry Marshall Tory award presented for a distinguished contribution to adult education.

The citation was announced by Dr. Gordon Shrum, at the annual meeting of the Canadian Association for Adult Education held last month in Vancouver. Ruth I. McKenzie, Toronto, director of research for National Farm Radio Forum and editor of Farm Forum Guide, and R. L. Stutt, Regina, a member of the national board of Farm Radio Forum, accepted the award.



It takes only 1½ minutes to fill the 100 gallon sprayer Mr. Walker converted from a horse-drawn to a tractor-mounted unit.



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Activities, Plans and Policies of the Quebec Department of Agriculture

Oka Entertains the Pomologists

This summer marks the fourth time that the Quebec Pomological Society has held its summer meeting at Oka. As they did in 1909, 1916 and 1936, members of the Society turned out in large numbers to visit the La Trappe orchards, see demonstrations of spraying and dusting machines, hear reports of the various committees and exchange news and views with each other and compare crop prospects. The meeting was particularly well organized: demonstrations got started at the hour that had been advertised and the whole programme was carried out on schedule.

Machinery demonstrations had been planned well in advance, and at the end of the rows in the orchard just in front of the main building of the Agricultural College the different sprayers were drawn up, each one ready to start as soon as the one in the next row had finished its trip. One machine which was receiving particular attention was the large "Silveraire" which combines the air-blast principle with an oscillating boom instead of having the jets arranged in a circle at the back of the sprayer as in the conventional models.

The address of President Fontaine indicated that the increase in fees put into effect at the last annual meeting had resulted in a decrease in paid-up membership, which now stands at 460 as compared with 850 last year. The routine circulars have continued to go to all members who were on the books last year, but this practice has had to be abandoned. Mr. Fontaine set the membership goal at not less than 700, stressing the need for a strong,



The Minister of Agriculture stands between Father Norbert, Director of l'Institut Agricole d'Oka and Lucien Fontaine, president of the Pomological Society. Executives of the Society, members of the Oka staff and special guests surround them.

interested membership if the affairs of the society were to be carried out with benefit to all. Referring in a general way to marketing, he pointed out that outlets are decreasing, competition from the West Coast is on the increase, and there is great need for a vigorous campaign of advertising, for better grading and packing of the crop, and for a strong co-operative effort if we are to move the crop each year.

The recently appointed secretary-treasurer, Theo. Proulx, reported on a survey he had made, at the request of the directors, to discover the attitude of certain buyers toward the Quebec crop as compared to the crop from British Columbia. Admittedly, figures from only a relatively few buyers cannot be considered too conclusive, but information supplied by 25 large wholesalers and 3 co-operatives in the Eastern Townships, the Quebec City district and Lake St. John indicated that British Columbia apples outsell Quebec apples by a large margin. These wholesalers agree that they would buy Quebec apples if they could be assured of a uniform pack and grade, and if there was some central agency through which their orders could be placed. This seemed a point of common agreement—the ease with which orders for B.C. apples could be placed at one central point, and the rapidity with which the orders were filled with just what was ordered. Some such central marketing agency seems badly needed here in Quebec, where uniformly graded and well packed apples can be ordered with assurance of rapid delivery.



A typical scene during one of the demonstrations.



Part of the crowd that gathered in the orchard to watch the demonstrations. The main building of the Oka Agricultural College is in the background.

Crop Situation

The outlook for the marketing of the 1948 crop is not too bright, although, due to a late season, B.C. apples will likely not appear on local markets before the first of October. The total crop for Canada will be just about the same as last year, some $15\frac{1}{2}$ million bushels, to which must be added the equivalent of $2\frac{1}{2}$ million bushels of Nova Scotia apples processed last year but still in warehouses unsold. The pre-war European markets are practically closed to us, and any apples sold to Europe under the Marshall Plan will be supplied by the United States. The Americans, who are putting up the money to finance these purchases, naturally want this money to be spent for American apples, and they are anxious to keep and build up their overseas outlets. The American crop will just about fill their needs, but there is a chance that they might take some $2\frac{1}{2}$ million bushels from Canada, provided we could supply the varieties they want, which seems doubtful at this point.

Executives of the Society were indignant over the fact that undersized apples were being offered for sale on

public markets, and made the claim that grading regulations had, in certain districts, been unofficially suspended, although the Society had taken no action to have this done. To stop this practice, and to provide emergency relief for growers, the members agreed to ask the Department of Agriculture for this year only to allow the sale of Melba, MacIntosh and Fameuse down to 2", provided these apples grade No. 1. For all other varieties, the present grading regulations are to be strictly enforced.

Minister of Agriculture Barre was an interested guest at the meeting, and replied briefly to the welcoming address of Father Norbert, Director of the Agricultural Institute of Oka. Mr. Barre emphasized that his Department is always ready to assist the Pomological Society or any other organization of farmers, provided that requests for assistance were sensible and in the interest of all growers.

Dr. O'Grady of the Oka Agricultural College staff had prepared a talk on the fate of chemical fertilizers in soils, but both the French and English versions (Dr. O'Grady is perfectly bilingual), were curtailed so that the meetings could close on time. It is hoped that his talk can be presented again at the winter meeting.

National Barley Competition Is On

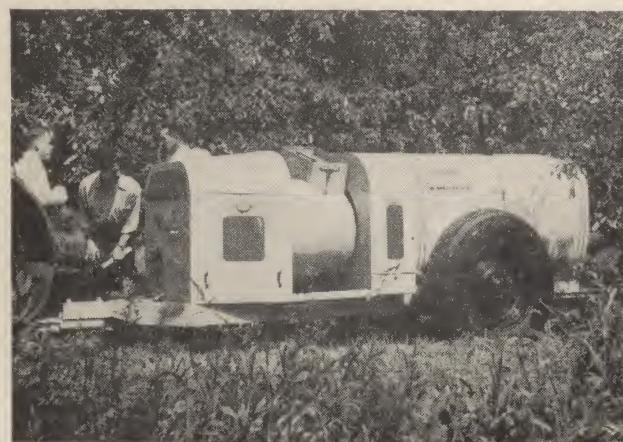
During the summer the ten judges who will pick the best fields entered in the National Barley Contest spent two days at Macdonald College being briefed on their duties and arranging for a uniform system of judging. On account of the hot dry weather, barley ripened early and the judges' work was finished earlier than had been at first expected.

For the purposes of the contest, which has drawn entries from 40 different counties in Quebec, 10 districts have been set up, for each of which a different judge was appointed. Those from the Quebec Department of Agriculture include Messrs Andre Auger, N. Parent, L. P. Belzile, L. Raynauld, J. R. Cloutier and P. Methot, all of the Field Crops Service. From the Federal Department came Messrs. A. Langlois, Jos. Ferland, H. Brunet and O. Crepeau.

The best sample of barley is selected on the basis of four separate inspections. The crop is first inspected in the field before being harvested. The threshed grain is inspected on the farm, then a sample is analyzed by the official laboratory. The final inspection determines the value of the sample for malting.

Cash For Clean Dairies

The province-wide competition among butter and cheese factory operators will be continued this year with a total prize money of \$1,500. This amount will be divided among the ten best cheese factories and the ten best butter factories, the actual amount received by each individual factory to be determined on the basis of the judge's reports.



Of particular interest was this Silveraire sprayer which combines air-blast with two oscillating booms.

Shooting for the Gold Medal

Winner of second place in the competition for the coveted gold medal of the Agricultural Merit Competition for 1948 is Wyman MacKchnie of Wyman, P.Q., whose progressive farming methods earned him 894½ points out of a possible total of 1000 when the judges visited his farm on their final evaluation last month. The winning farm this year was that of Pierre Couture of St. Augustin, which was given a total of 928 points by the committee. A report on his operations and a description of the presentation of the award will be in the October issue.

Mr. MacKchnie is of pioneer Scottish stock. As a young man his grandfather heard the call of the new land and left Scotland for Canada, where he settled down to farm in Bristol. His son was brought up on the Bristol farm, and Wyman was born there, but at a very early age he was taken by his father to the present farm where he grew up and which he now owns. The



The Farm Dairy

original farm, which has been in the MacKchnie family since 1899, consists of 200 acres, and was patented in 1848 by a man by the name of McConnell. He cleared some of it, but most of the clearing was done by the next owner, Mr. Sparum. Mr. E. R. Mohr, a pioneer farmer, came into possession next and eventually sold it to Mr. MacKchnie's father. Wyman took over active operation of the farm in 1921, the year that he married a neighbour's daughter, Miss Cora Meredith and established his own home. Mr. and Mrs. MacKchnie now have a family of four.

The present farm consists of 300 acres: the original 200 acres plus a neighbouring farm bought in 1947. There are about 100 acres in woodlot, 45 in bush and sugar bush, 85 acres of rough pasture and the remainder is devoted to crops and permanent pasture. The property is operated as a dairy farm; the 65 head of stock are all purebred Ayrshires and the herd sire is Connell Coronation Montgomery, a son of Burnside Coronation out of

Killock's Pride Imp. The junior herd sire is home-raised Bonnieshade Mac's Pride. The herd includes six "excellent" cows, one of which, Bonnieshade Gay Girl, topped the four-year-old in milk class at the Royal Winter Fair in 1947.

The milk is bottled in a well-equipped farm dairy, complete with refrigerated cooling and holding room, and is retailed in Quyon, where their milk route has been established for the past 17 years. Any surplus production goes to the Quyon Co-operative. A flock of some 100 Barred Plymouth Rock hens supplements the revenue from the dairy herd and the eggs find ready sale among special customers in Ottawa.

Mr. MacKchnie grows enough grain to keep the five-year rotation going, and supplements the farm grain with purchased meal and oil cake. He grows from 100 to 125 tons of silage a year, using hybrid corn for that extra vigour and yield. Ajax oats have been giving a good account of themselves for the past few years and he sees no reason to change his variety. Timothy and clover hay goes into the barn in the summer, some of it harvested with a baler but most of it handled with a mower and hayloader. He tried a small patch of birdseye trefoil a couple of years ago and this is now becoming well established and is giving good results. The farm is well mechanized and he also has a few good Clydes for general farm work. During the last few years he has been laying tile and now has over 35 acres finished.

The farm is definitely a family affair and all the work is done without regular hired help. The eldest son, Ronald, who graduated from the Diploma Course at Macdonald College in 1942, is with his father on the farm. He has always been interested in livestock and was prominent in junior club work, where he obtained the practice in cattle judging and handling that stands him in such good stead today.

The second son, Douglas, is at home during the summer, and in the winter carries on with his studies; he is in the third year of the B.Sc.(Agr.) course at



Macdonald. Laurie, the third boy, has graduated from Shawville High School and also works on the farm, with the milk route as his special responsibility. Lorna, the only girl of the family, is at home at the moment and is still a little bit undecided about her future career, now that she has graduated from High School. In the meantime, she helps her mother with all the many duties that can be found around the farm home.

Mr. MacKechnie has the distinction of having owned the first Ayrshire to make a Canadian record of over 100,000 pounds of milk on two-a-day milking. This was Bonnie Peggy who, at the time of her death in 1944 at the ripe old age of 21, had produced 130,000 pounds

of milk and 5,335 pounds of fat. His Bonnieshade Silver Rena still holds the Canadian cumulative record on the same basis of 138,000 pounds of milk and 6009 pounds of fat and her half sister, Bonnieshade Proud Rena "one of his "excellent" cows, has already recorded 128,000 pounds of milk and 5,700 pounds of fat. He has thus owned the first three cows in any one herd to score over the 100,000 pound mark on twice a day milking.

Man cannot live unto himself, as Mr. MacKechnie fully realizes, and he takes his duties and responsibilities as a citizen seriously. He is president of the Quyon Agricultural Society, a past president of the Pontiac Ayrshire Breeders' Club, has been mayor of South Onslow Township for the past eight years and now is also warden of Pontiac County. He has been a member since the beginning of the Farm Forums and has represented his district as an official delegate at the annual meetings of this organization. And his most recent position, and one about which he is particularly enthusiastic, is that of a director of the newly completed Pontiac Community Hospital, a half million dollar development just completed at Shawville. We hope to have a story on this in some future issue of the Journal.

To Mr. MacKechnie, his family, and to Mrs. MacKechnie, who has been her husband's staunch partner and supporter through all their married life, our congratulations.



Hybrid corn is grown for silage

Banking in ACTION

Flourishing fields of grain—fat live stock, fruitful dairy herds and flocks—cereals, meats, milk, cheese, butter, eggs; the food of a nation and the hopes of starving peoples abroad; thriving communities, dependent for their welfare on the farmer—all these things flow from Canada's Agricultural Industry.

The Canadian Bank of Commerce has loaned millions of dollars to farmers through the years of expanding frontiers. Throughout Canada it has applied Banking in Action to help build this nation's thriving dairy and live stock industry.

**THE CANADIAN
BANK OF COMMERCE**

Quebec Handicrafts



Visitors by the thousands have thronged the Cafe du Parlement in Quebec City to see the amazing exhibit of home craftsmanship which has been prepared by the Department of Agriculture's School of Home Economics and Handicrafts. In the register at the door are to be found the signatures of visitors from every province of Canada, from over 100 cities and towns of the United States, and from South America, Hawaii, France, England, Scotland, Ireland, Holland, even Turkey and China.

Many city people do not realize that throughout rural Quebec thousands of men and women are practising some kind of home craft. In the early days, rural women made their own home furnishings and the clothing for the family, with the opening up of the country and the availability of manufactured products, home craftsmanship, except in the most isolated districts, declined markedly.

In an effort to revive this art, a provincial school was founded by the Department of Agriculture in 1929, for the purpose of training teachers who in their turn would pass on their knowledge throughout the rural districts. This school has the most up-to-date equipment for work-

ing wool, flax, and cotton, a laboratory for testing fibres and dyeing materials, a library and a studio for drawing and painting. There is also a special section where clays are tested for pottery making.

During the past 15 years, graduates of this school have given regular lessons to some 800 separate women's organizations (cercles des fermières), which combined have a total membership of over 50,000 women. Besides, the School maintains a correspondence service which is taken advantage of by thousands more.

The home industries have come back with a vengeance, thanks to this vigorous policy, it is estimated that there are over 80,000 spinning wheels and 60,000 looms busy at this moment in Quebec Province, a vivid proof of the complete revival of home crafts.

It is impossible in a printed article to give an adequate idea of the quality and beauty of the exhibited articles. The focus of the exhibit was interior decoration, and the drapes, cushions, rugs, catalogue, etc. were displayed along with furniture created by the Furniture School of Montreal. Pottery, dress material, upholstery, in all their vivid colours and attractive designs, made a picture that had to be seen to be appreciated.

Courses For Candlers

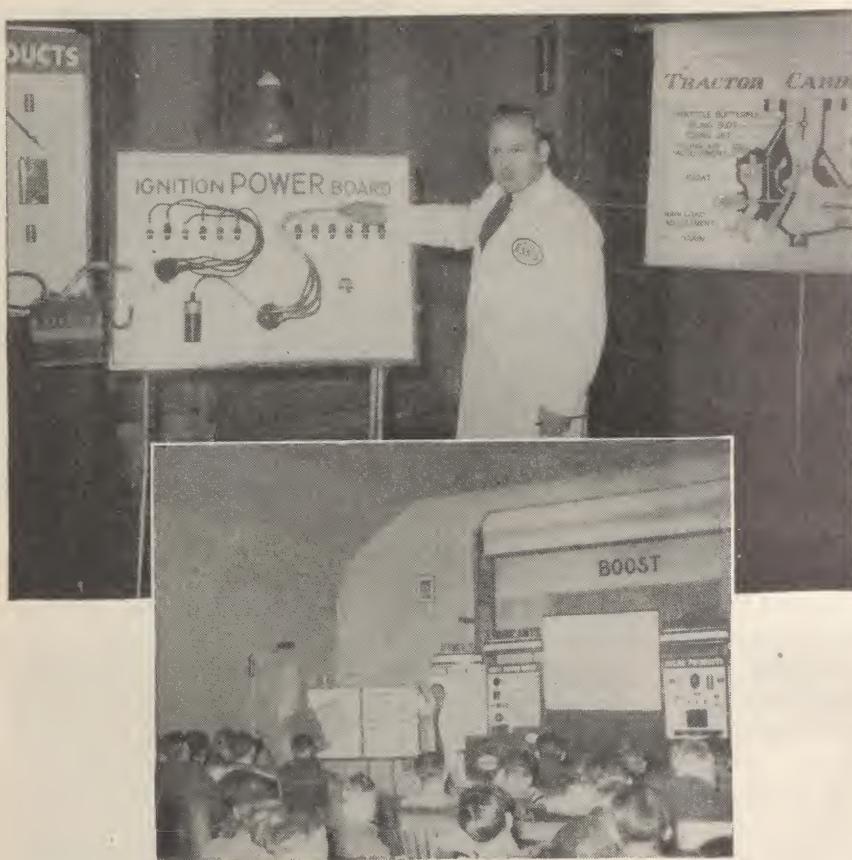
An interesting series of courses have recently been planned and carried out by the Poultry Division. At Yamachiche, a group of 9 boys and 7 girls attended classes for two weeks, where they were instructed in the latest and most effective methods of egg grading. At the end of the course the students were given practical and written examinations, and everyone who scored over 60% was given a certificate. These young people will find employment in the various egg grading stations in the province, the management of which will be glad to get workers who have been trained by experts.

The courses were given in collaboration with the

Federal Marketing Service, the Provincial Department of Labour and the Youth Aid Service. The course was under the overall direction of Mr. J. A. Brasard, poultry instructor, and the teaching was done by Messrs. J. Albert Lahaye and Louis J. Maltais, federal poultry inspectors.

Agricultural Merit Winner

Pierre Couture of St. Augustin de Portneuf was awarded the Gold Medal of the Order of Agricultural Merit of the Province of Quebec at the usual impressive ceremony during the Quebec Fair earlier this month. A report on this will, for mechanical reasons, have to await our next issue.



How Imperial Oil's TRACTOR CLINICS Promote Better Farming

Imperial Oil's tractor clinics are for men only . . . and the men must be bona fide tractor operators.

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Thus, Imperial Oil works shoulder to shoulder with Agricultural Extension men, to promote better farming in Canada.

IMPERIAL OIL LIMITED
Farm Division



Strippings by Gordon W. Geddes

When Ivan and I finally got the silo repaired, what a time we had to get any help to fill it. This year we did have our own blower though we wasted some time trying to use it without the rolling feed table. The blower was old but the table we bought new from the maker only to find that it didn't fit. However, by use of a blow-torch, electric welder and a home-made chain tightener, we got it going and then what an appetite it had! Not having our own power we had to hire a tractor so, of course, needed help enough to keep it going. All sorts of plans were made only to have them fall through. But, finally we got started and what a mixed crew we had. Dot's father, seventy-four years old with fourteen cows of his own to milk and no help, drove a team on the mower with the swather attached. Incidentally, we had a different arrangement on the swather instead of the swath-board which made it much easier to manage.

Our own two teams, one of them a two-year old colt hitched with a twenty year-old horse, we used to haul in. A fourteen year-old boy from the village who had never handled horses at all, drove on the hay-loader for us. We had a new W4 tractor to drive the forty year old blower. But we were still stuck for anyone to work in the silo so Ethel, Ivan's wife, tackled the job with a little odd help from us. Dot looked after Ethel's baby and the house. That way we put in a three acre field near the barn but after that we had to have another team to haul.

So, we went down and put in a field of hay for Ivan's father. Then he came back with his team and a fourteen year old girl to help Ethel in the silo. That way we put in three more acres though the girls had to go on hands and knees to put in the last load. After it settled we put in three more loads so have much more than usual in the silo. In fact we expect it will be necessary to feed silage twice

a day part of the time, something we have not tried before. However, it is a good way to handle clover and saves pitching hay so high in the barn. We shall have less hay than usual though the quantity of hay and silage combined might be about the same. Complaints on the quantity of hay are quite common this year but our clover was very heavy and we had more acres than usual which helped to keep our average up. Last spring when it was wet it looked like a good hay crop but it has been much too dry. Still we would like two more days of good weather so we could finish the haying to go to the Field Day at the Lennoxville Experimental Farm. Then, for a bit, good weather would be rainy weather.

Our few acres of improved pasture are quite over-stocked when it is so

dry and the aftergrass is not coming on to supplement it. The piece of oats where we had the breaker plow helps a lot but it needs the rain too. The cows eat hay quite readily in the stable.

As soon as the hay is finished, we shall mow around the grain fields ready for the reaper and feed them green oats for a time. If we get rain there will be some meadow grass by then but we should reduce our stock.

We keep hearing more and more about the hay-baler to solve the labour problem in haying but they still haven't found a way to beat the weather hazard with them. This season has seen some exceptionally good weather for such a project but even so one of our neighbours got caught in a rain with fifty tons of hay raked ready for the baler. So I still lean

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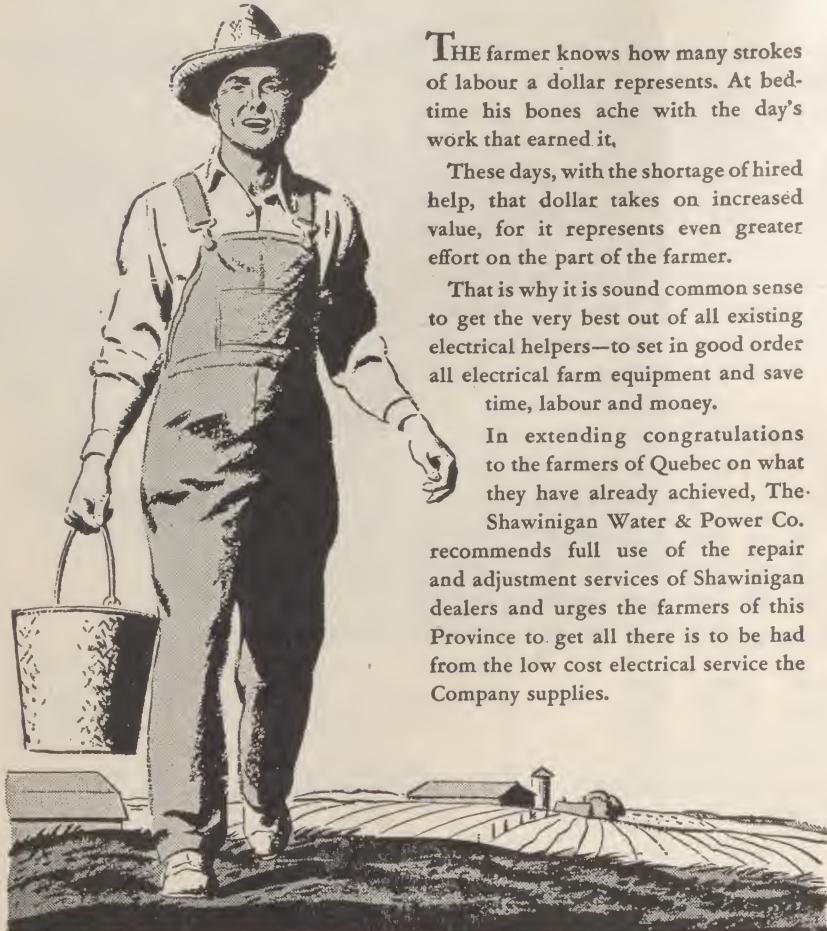
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THE farmer knows how many strokes of labour a dollar represents. At bedtime his bones ache with the day's work that earned it.

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In extending congratulations to the farmers of Quebec on what they have already achieved, The Shawinigan Water & Power Co. recommends full use of the repair and adjustment services of Shawinigan dealers and urges the farmers of this Province to get all there is to be had from the low cost electrical service the Company supplies.

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towards grass silage machinery rather than a hay-baler. The light forage harvesters which chop from the windrow seem more practical for the average farmer but they probably are new enough to change quite a bit in a short time. Ivan and I thought we were convinced that the efficient tractor was the type with both steel wheels and rubber tires available according to need.

Ethel went to pick raspberries the other day and came home with a lot of them and did the baby ever like them! Lassie the puppy also has some great ideas in diet for she likes raspberries, oranges and raw peas.

We have what one might almost call a pet fox. It showed up as soon as we started cutting clover and has been following us from field to field catching mice. Sometimes we see it three times a day. In the evening it is very tame and will come within a few feet of the team. One night there were two of them but the second left very quickly when it saw us.

There are certainly plenty of mice to be caught for I killed ten in the field in just a few minutes. In fact they must be over-crowded as one committed suicide at a neighbour's. It suddenly rolled out on the floor with a piece of twine wrapped several times around its neck tight enough to strangle it. And I'm not trying to start a 'believe it or not' column either.

International Control of Beetle

People in Holland, Belgium, Luxembourg, France and Great Britain are learning how to pronounce and spell the name of one of the United States, "Colorado". These countries are banding together to combat the 'Colorado Beetle' as they call it. In spite of great vigilance by Britain's quarantine authorities, Colorado potato beetles are making their appearance here and there in Britain, presumably borne in from the European continent. Agreement has been reached, following a meeting of the countries listed, on practical measures to control it.



CO-OPERATION AND MARKETING

A page of interest to members of farmer's co-operatives

Maritime Co-op Services Report 50% Volume Increase

Maritime Co-operative Services, central wholesale and marketing co-op situated in Moncton, New Brunswick, wrote into the records another successful year of operations as it reported a total dollar volume of over \$6,700,000 for the year ended May 31, 1948. About 150 delegates and visitors heard general manager W. H. McEwen and a team of department managers deliver reports which, added up, meant an over-all increase of more than 50% over the total business done the previous year. Part of the increase was attributable to prices but there was also a considerable rise in physical volume. Net revenue for the year totalled \$99,184.

Manager McEwen told the delegates that financing problems were greatly increased by higher prices, and aggravated by extremely poor rail service in moving grain from the Lakehead. Because of undependable transportation, more money had had to be provided to cover higher prices and increased inventory.

The delegates unanimously passed a resolution requesting the Canadian Federation of Agriculture to support the seven provinces asking for a royal commission on freight rates and to urge that no further rate increases be granted pending the findings of such a commission.

A second resolution, declaring that a monopoly existed in the distribution of medical services, commended the work being done by the Nova Scotia Co-operative Union

and the miners of Cape Breton to organize co-operative medical services.

Other resolutions urged: that the heads of all Maritime universities be asked to meet for the purpose of discussing problems and methods of adult education; that the Economics Division of the Dominion Department of Agriculture be asked to conduct a survey to determine actual costs of farm operations and "how much of the consumer's dollar goes to the farmer"; that local co-operatives be urged to discontinue the "dangerous practice" of extending credit to customers and attempt to operate on a "cash" basis within two months following their next annual meetings.

Lawrence MacIsaac, Sydney, N.S., was re-elected President of the Maritime Co-operative Services, J. E. Walsh, Moncton, is First Vice-President and Kenneth Dunphy, Durham Bridge, N.B., Second Vice-President. W. H. McEwen is Secretary and General Manager.

"Co-operation in Canada 1946," a recent publication of the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, reports that Canadian cooperatives did more than \$550 million worth of business in 1946. Of this, nearly \$455 million came from marketing and nearly \$96 million from purchasing farm supplies. Over 1,950 associations operated 4,488 places of business.

Co-op Refineries Make Record

The Consumers Co-operative Refineries, Regina, on June 1, 1948, established an all time record for petroleum deliveries. On that day of 254,739 gallons of petroleum products were delivered via transport to the member co-operatives in Saskatchewan.

The crude oil from Canada's first Co-op oil well, which came into production during June in the Leduc field in Alberta, will be refined in this refinery. The oil

well is capable of producing 3200 barrels of crude a day. However, under present Alberta government regulations, the production is limited to 100 barrels per day. Another Co-op well in the same area has found oil and the capacity will be known as soon as the necessary installation work is completed. A third well has been drilled to a depth of 3700 feet and prospects for a producer appear bright.



MARKET COMMENTS

A slight decline in feed prices and a more marked drop in the price of potatoes was the chief change during the month. Both these changes reflect favourable crop conditions.

The United States estimate the largest total crop on record. Corn promises to be a record crop and wheat the second largest crop on record.

Recent reports show improved conditions of the Canadian crop. The first crop estimate to hand (Searle Grain Co.) gives the following estimate for the three provinces contrasted with last years output.

	1947	1948
Wheat	319,000,000 bu.	325,000,000 bu.
Oats	193,000,000 bu.	220,000,000 bu.
Barley	131,000,000 bu.	164,000,000 bu.
Rye	11,600,000 bu.	23,000,000 bu.
Flaxseed	11,550,000 bu.	13,800,000 bu.

The increase in feed grains and particularly barley reflects the better conditions in Manitoba where crops have been termed "excellent" as contrasted with the other two provinces where conditions are "varied".

With better grain crops in Eastern Canada than last year, greater production of feed grains in Western Canada and bumper crops of all grain in the United States, the feed situation should be improved over last year. Repeal of the embargo against shipment should not alter the picture greatly as feed supplies should be plentiful over the continent. The repeal of the embargo against shipment of beef may be quite another matter.

A scarcity of Canadian butter is certain for the coming

winter. Supplies are 14,000,000 pounds below the previous year on August first. The Dairy Council gives as good an explanation of the decline as is available which is that alternative opportunities are more profitable than providing butter.

Trend of Prices

	Aug. 1947	July 1948	Aug. 1948
LIVESTOCK			
Steers, good, per cwt.	14.25	19.45	20.80
Cows, good, per cwt.	10.25	14.10	14.65
Cows, common per cwt.	7.75	9.70	9.40
Canners and Cutters, per cwt.	6.25	7.10	6.65
Veal, good and choice, per cwt.	14.40	23.30	21.60
Veal, common, per cwt.	11.00	16.80	13.60
Lambs, good, per cwt.	16.10	24.60	19.65
Lambs, common, per cwt.	12.25	21.15	16.10
Bacon hogs, B 1, dressed per cwt.	22.60	32.35	32.35
ANIMAL PRODUCTS			
Butter, per lb.	0.55	0.66	0.68
Cheese, per lb.	0.26	0.33	0.32
Eggs, grade A large, per dozen	0.50	0.54	0.64
Chickens, live, 5 lbs. plus, per lb.	0.26	0.36	0.36
Chickens, dressed, Milk-fed A. per lb.	0.38	0.43	0.44
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES			
Potatoes, Quebec No. 1 per 75 lb. bag	1.60-1.75	3.00	1.60-1.75
FEED			
Bran, per ton	30.00	56.75-57.75	55.25-56.75
Barley meal, per ton	—	61.25-64.00	60.50-63.80
Oat chop, per ton	—	69.50-72.00	56.50-67.80
Oil meal, per ton	45.25	70.00	70.00

adaptability, and not in any way to a real incompatibility in our soil and climate . . . Each climate and even section must . . . have its own select varieties."

As two of the leading varieties for New Brunswick Mr. Turney picks McIntosh and Courtland. McIntosh now accounts for 50% of N.B. trees, and Courtland about 16%. The Courtland was introduced to Canada by New Brunswick as a good fertilizing companion for the McIntosh, and an apple that matures a little later and keeps well till the end of February.

Sixteen projects of particular interest to dairymen are under way under the terms of the Research and Marketing Act, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has announced. Of the 16, eight are in the field of utilization of the non-fat portion of milk.

Two of these are concerned with the more efficient use of the 40,000,000 pounds of skim milk and 10,000,000 pounds of whey. One emphasizes the development of new processes for using skim milk and whey in both domestic and foreign type cheeses, while the other is attempting to find wider use for milk by-products in evaporated, condensed and dried milk, as well as in other food products. Both of these are being directed by the Bureau of Dairy Industry.



THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES SECTION

*Devoted to the activities of the Quebec Institutes
and to matters of interest to them*

The Canadian Mothercraft Society

by Dorothy Ellard

This Society is under the Gracious Patronage of Her Majesty the Queen, and its motto—To help the Mothers and save the Babies.

The Canadian Mothercraft Society stands ready to give to all mothers its simple teaching, which is now eagerly sought by capacity numbers in Toronto's Mothercraft Advice Rooms and at the five district advice rooms throughout the city. There is also an advice room in Ottawa and Storyville. There are no advice rooms in the Province of Quebec.

To be able to extend the work more registered nurses must take the Mothercraft post-graduate training. A four months course Training Hospital is in Toronto.

The essentials of Mothercraft, applicable to any country or climate, were the crowning achievements of the life of a great scientist and doctor, Sir Frederick Truby King, of New Zealand. Aided by his wife, he gave his findings, after years of research, to the women of New Zealand in 1907. Since that time the aims and objects, the essentials of the teaching, have stood every test and have gone to almost every country of the British Empire as well as other countries.

By the use of this teaching New Zealand has now the lowest infant mortality rate in the world. (Canada has, by the way, one of the highest). Sir Truby King wanted every little home, irrespective of status or circumstances, to learn that to have health in the complete sense of the word there must be health of body, mind and spirit. Such health begins spiritually, while for health of body we must think of the soil from which comes our food. Sir Truby King always linked the soil and health, the mother and child, as an inseparable unit — the physical and spiritual in proper balance.

Mothercraft came to Canada in 1931. It has made rapid strides, but in this vast country with nine separate provincial health departments, progress can only go along as fast as enlightenment for the public. Students come from all parts of Canada for the well baby nurse training of 12 months given in Toronto and they take back practical knowledge of this teaching. The well baby nurse is fitted for an excellent career, either in a wage earning capacity, or as head of her own home and family.

Canada lost three times as many babies as men during the last war. Sir Truby King was the author of the expression "The World marches forward on the feet of little children." Mothercraft teaching would save many mothers and babies, through positive health teaching and simple regulations, in remote parts, if the nature

of the work were better known and provision made for it.

As your convenor of Health and Welfare, it seems to me this mothercraft teaching should be a project taken up by the Quebec Women's Institutes. An advice room could be set up in a rural area for teaching and instruction in this work. This would be a beginning in Quebec Province of this great work. Once started there is no doubt it would grow and I should be proud indeed to have it said that the Q.W.I. were the first in our Province to sponsor this "Canadian Mothercraft Society". Any enquiries about this project may be sent to your Convenor of Health and Welfare, Mrs. H. Ellard, Wright Post Office, Que.

Dental Clinic At Bury

Bury W.I. co-operated with the Junior Red Cross, and other organized groups of that community, in sponsoring a dental clinic. A total of \$50 was voted for this project and members took turns, two at a time, in assisting the dentists throughout the whole clinic. Mrs. Ruth B. Shaw, of the Junior Red Cross, made a visit with her assistant while the clinic was in progress and was most favourably impressed with the efficient manner in which it was carried out. This clinic is the first of the kind to be held in this province but has proved so successful that it is hoped other communities will take it up.



At the left, Mrs. Faley, a member of the Bury W.I., looks on while Dr. Brockwell works on his patient, Miss Leola Lawrence. In the other chair Miss Isabel Pehlemann is being attended to by Dr. Merrit with Mrs. Eric Fisher an interested spectator.

Good Neighbours

by Hazel Coates

Canadians have been praised, and justly, for their neighbourly attitude in world affairs. Our sympathies are keen and easily awakened. Our resources as a nation are great, and we hope that while we guard them well, we share them wisely.

Now-a-days, the word international weaves itself into so many phases of life. Our Institute movement has spread to so many countries, and our minds reach out to understand our neighbour's problems; whether she be a woman who lives near us or very far away. That is good. We cannot always understand her language but we do know the woman's heart common to us all.

At our June convention at Macdonald College, and at other meetings in this Province, our American friends came and shared their ideas with us. These neighbourly visits are profitable to them and to us. The interchange of new ideas open the eyes of all to an ever-widening field of service.

Those of us who live near the Ontario border gain from the friendly fellowship among the members of W.I. groups in the two Provinces.

But what of our French Canadian neighbour? Are we in a position to share with her our knowledge or learn from her? We both have so much worth passing on to the other.

However, we, the women of Quebec, have a chance to share in working out a big problem—the need of bilingualism, here in our own Province.

This year, 1948, marks one hundred years since English and French were ranked equally as Canada's official languages.

It may interest you to be reminded that back in 1837, the people of Canada were in a state of rebellion. In Upper Canada it was class privilege and social rights; and in Lower Canada, the bitter misunderstandings between French population and English governors.

Following this, Lord Durham prepared a Report on Lower Canada. In 1840, the British Government adopted his suggestions, and the Act of Union was passed. This Act brought the two Provinces together, and granted a united Parliament with English as the official language.

Difficulties continued, but wise governors guided Canada, and legislators like Robert Baldwin and Louis Lafontaine worked for racial equality. In 1848 the Act of Union was amended, and English and French were placed on equality for all official purposes.

In 1867, Confederation of our Dominion came to pass, and by the British North America Act, it was granted that "French or English language may be used in the Canadian Parliament at Ottawa and in the Quebec Legislature: in their journals and records—The statutes

of Canada and of Quebec are to be printed in both English and French."

In Manitoba the question of the two languages arose, later, but since 1890, French has not been an official language there.

So, our own Province is the only one where the French language has special constitutional protection, while we, the English speaking minority, can claim our rights, too.

Recognizing the need of this generation to speak both languages, the Protestant Committee of Education at Quebec has sought to bring into our schools methods and textbooks helpful to our children today; the youth leaving school has a working vocabulary. I believe it is safe to say that each year, the class going out knows a little more French than the class before it.

This year, the Committee are trying an experiment. They have asked all Protestant teachers to co-operate in having "un jour de français" on November 5, 1948.

As women who are interested in any new, well considered demand made by the Protestant Committee of Education, we, Institute women, can help to promote this undertaking. Let us talk about "le jour de français" with our young people, stressing the fact that wider opportunities in professional and in commercial life are open to those who are bilingual. We can encourage them to think of the day as an adventure in neighbourliness, a gesture of friendship towards French Quebec.

If we do our best, it may be that the celebration marking 100 years of equality of English and French as our official language, may be a contributing factor to a better understanding between the two races—a stepping stone towards Canadian unity.

Grandmother's Day

The place—the pleasant little town of Hemmingford on a beautiful summer day. The occasion—"Grandmother's Day" as observed by the local branch of the Quebec Women's Institutes.

This honouring of these important members of a community is, I believe, a custom unique to our organization and is an annual event among the branches of the Q.W.I. The guests, the grandmothers, are very often still active members of their Institute and usually take a prominent part in the programme.

This day at Hemmingford was no exception, as a quiz on Home Economics, conducted by the convenor, Mrs. Moore, herself a grandmother, was answered by the grandmothers present. The exact number was not noted, but the line extended across the whole front of the large hall. Two visiting grandmothers were also asked to take their place in the class, Mrs. Bouchard. President of the Les Cercles des Fermières, and the writer of this skit. Attempts to answer such questions as "What is



Original members of Hemmingford Branch. Mrs. Petch is at the extreme right, and the President, Mrs. Cunningham, is at the left.

meant by a curtain lecture?" and "Which is heavier, a pound of feathers or a pound of gold?" caused much merriment and created an atmosphere of friendliness certainly enjoyed by the visitors.

A beautiful corsage was presented each grandmother and also to the six charter members present, one of them being Mrs. Petch, a name well known to Institute members throughout the province. Another grandmother, Mrs. W. F. Orr, gave highlights from the minutes of the early years of their Institute, and displayed

the first prize collection of wild flowers in a contest staged for the children many years ago.

Outstanding on the programme was the rollcall which was answered by displaying, "My Oldest Possession". This made a wonderful exhibit and was well worth a long trip to see. Beautiful specimens of old china and glassware, rare laces, carved ivory, handwoven linen towels, a Paisley shawl brought from Ireland, by a great, great grandmother, an intricately pieced and embroidered quilt from Scotland, a sword carried at the battle of Odelltown and valuable antique jewellery, were among the many interesting objects viewed with pleasure by those attending.

These exhibits of heirlooms are a popular item of the programme with many other Institutes. Wearing old-fashioned costumes is another feature equally in favour, with anecdotes of those earlier days given by the grandmothers and sing-songs of old favourites, led by them, providing a pleasing entertainment in which all can participate. Prizes for the oldest and youngest grandmother, the one with the most grandchildren or the newest one, the longest and the shortest skirt, and so on, add variety and fun.

These events are always enjoyed by everyone and surely it is only fitting that one day a year should be set aside to honour these women who have made such a valuable contribution to the life of the community—and still are.

The Month With the W.I.

Institute members should certainly have a clear picture of provincial activities for the past year. Almost every branch reports a splendid account of the convention given by its delegate. And, as enthusiasm is a most contagious disease, we also hope she carried back the germ, which we know she could not help but catch there, that her branch will also get the fever. Perhaps though they don't altogether need it, the reports are continually getting bigger and better. I hope, since we can give only the highlights here, you are all making good use of your local press for publicity.

As was expected, there has been an unanimous response to the suggestion for help to Institute members in B.C. and we are still hearing of talks and demonstrations given by students who attended the short course. Could that be another reason for increasing interest in Institute work?

Argenteuil: Branches in this county participated in the Lachute fair with handicraft, flower and home cooking exhibits. Arundel had the county president, Mrs. Leggett, as guest speaker. Brownsburg won the blanket donated by Dupuis Frères for the most prizes at Lachute fair. Mr. Logan, organizer for the Blue Cross addressed the meeting. Frontier catered at a calf sale and voted prize money for their local fair. Jerusalem-Bethany,

"Bring an antique and tell its History," was the rollcall, a whole programme in itself. Lachute has exchanged their travelling library books for a new set. Lakefield opened their "Novelty Apron" (what is that) a member winning it as reward for the most original verse. A food sale was held. Pioneer heard a talk on "Our Canada" by Rev. W. B. Rosborough. Mille Isles is one of the many branches sending relief to B.C. Upper Lachute and East End remembered their shut-in members.



Members from Morin Heights came down to visit the College during the short course.



Officers and convenors of the Arundel W.I. The President, Mrs. Bulley, is in the centre of the middle row.

Bonaventure: New Carlisle entertained the county meeting. A novel match box contest was held, the winning box containing 87 articles. Port Daniel organized a Blue Cross group. A successful dance was held to aid the treasury. Shigawake sent an exhibit of handicraft to the provincial convention.

Brome: Sutton discussed their delegate's report of the convention.

Compton: Bury is making improvements in their memorial park. Their last canteen netted \$41.93 and donations amounting to \$27 were received. \$5 was voted the Q.W.I. Service Fund and two new members were enrolled. Brookbury also reports two new members and a membership taken out in the U.N.S. \$15 was donated the Bury dental clinic. Canterbury won the prize on their float "Just Married" at the Dominion Day celebration. A candy contest was held and the entries sold after. A charter member was remembered on her golden wedding anniversary. East Clifton donated money towards the prize list for the local fair. Papers on canning and household hints were read.

Chat-Huntingdon: Aubrey-Riverfield realized \$28 from a rummage sale. Current events in all departments and a poem, "Beneath the British Flag" formed the programme. Dundee enjoyed a Cooking quiz. Household hints are given each month with a prize for the best. These are all judged at the close of a year for a grand prize. All convenors contributed briefly to the programme. Franklin Centre had "Best Practical Idea" for their contest and heard a reading entitled "The Humming Bird and the Canny Crow."

Hemmingford: Mrs. Bouchard president of the local Cercles des Fermières, visited this meeting and extended a cordial invitation to the W.I. members to visit them during their two week' course in weaving. Howick made their second payment on the Barrie Memorial Hospital Fund. Ormstown also gave a donation to this fund, their share of the proceeds of a play given by out-of-town talent being used for this purpose. Mrs. Brocklehurst, who attended the short course, gave a demonstration on weaving.

Gaspé: An annual outing is always planned by this county when all the branches get together for a day of fun and friendship at Haldimand Beach. This year 60 members turned out for a weiner roast with races for fun and a "Convenorship Contest" prepared by the Publicity convenor, Mrs. Eden, for a brain-teaser. An unexpected storm speeded their departure but "anyway it was fun while it lasted" Wakeham is co-operating with the Sunday School for a community picnic for children and parents. A donation of \$10 was given the Haldimand Camp Site Fund and articles handed in to assist in a church sale. York attended the showing of a film on "Health" at their school.

Gatineau: Aylmer East arranged a picnic for all teachers and children in the district and voted \$25 toward school prizes. Breckenridge co-operated in a festival when a short programme was given. Eardley entertained the county president, Mrs. Ellard, who gave a talk on the Blue Cross and the St. John's Ambulance Courses. The oldest member, 85 years young, donated a beautifully pieced quilt top to the branch which is to be sold to augment general funds. Rupert is another branch reporting a school picnic. Members attended a joint meeting with the Farm Forums to discuss a co-operative health scheme. \$154 has been spent on improvements to their cemetery. Wakefield heard an address by their doctor on "Group Medicine and Hospitalization Schemes." Entries are being prepared for the local school fair and the Ottawa Exhibition. Wright attended the meeting on Co-operative Health Services. A European child has been adopted and the proceeds of a rummage sale donated to the Junior Red Cross.

Jacques Cartier: Ste. Annes, Juvenile Delinquency was discussed at their meeting with the Chief of Police as guest speaker. A Garden Tea was held to aid the treasury.

Megantic: Inverness held their annual picnic meeting at the beautiful summer home of Mrs. Dickson. Their last Personal Parcel was donated by the students of the Intermediate School.

Missisquoi: Cowansville, another picnic here. "Name a Canadian Bird and describe its Habits," was a rollcall that made an interesting programme. Dunham heard a talk on how our grandmothers use herbs for medicine and dyes. Fordyce — picnic again, with a sandwich demonstration on the schedule. St. Armand reports another interesting rollcall, "An Old-time Recipe."

Papineau: Lochaber—still we hear of picnics! "A large attendance" says the report. A class has been formed for a St. John's Ambulance Course. Many articles were sent to the handicraft exhibit at the convention.

Pontiac: Beach Grove held a successful home cooking sale. Bristol Busy Bees, another food sale reported here with the addition of fancywork. Clarendon had adopted a European child. Quilts given to a family who lost their home by fire, prizes to pupils in the local schools and

the discussion of Co-operative Medical Services, are other items of their report. Stark's Corners—"Changes in our Community since I was a Child", was the subject of a paper at their "Grandmother" Day". The guests of honour were entertained by a musical programme. The sum of \$150 was given the Community Hospital to purchase chairs. Wyman is making use of the loan library at the Q.W.I. Office. Leathercraft was demonstrated by a member of the Quyon branch and an account was given of the work of the New Cancer Clinic at Toronto.

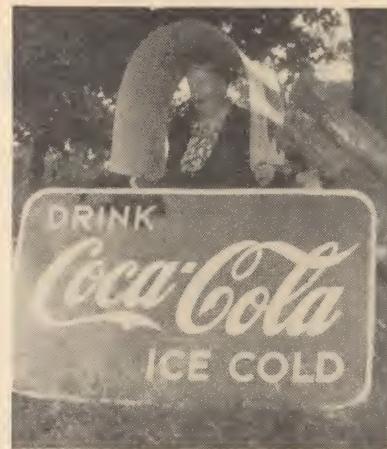
Rouville: Abbotsford, the executive visited the Veteran's Hospital at St. Hyacinthe and distributed comforts and magazines to the patients.

Richmond: This county is running the dining room during their fair, each branch being responsible for a share of the work and food. Plans are being made for a scholarship for girls taking a business course at the convent. Cleveland held the popular picnic, with games, at Nicolet Lake. Dennison's Mills—a community picnic here. An ice cream social and dance is also reported. The Junior branch sold cards and candy amounting to \$10.70. Gore reports a contest on "Nursery Rhymes". Melbourne Ridge observed "Grandmother's Day" with a fitting programme. A committee was appointed to plan their school fair. Shipton held a bingo and box social netting \$28.75. A bean guessing contest and an address by Mrs. Dearden of Windsor Mills on "Early Days in the Townships" were other items mentioned.

Shefford: Granby Hill is making an afghan, also a quilt to be sold to raise funds. A picnic lunch, all members furnishing, was held on the lawn of their hostess. South Roxton members, with their families, journeyed to Wright's Beach for their annual picnic. Warden sent a remembrance to an old friend in the Wales Home. The rollcall, "What I like about the W.I." brought some good responses.

Sherbrooke: Ascot sent in an entry in the Better Housing Competition. They also catered at a meeting of the Calf Club and sold ice cream, etc. at the school dance. Belvidere held a rummage and food sale realizing a satisfactory profit. Brompton Road sponsored immunization for diphtheria in their school. Lennoxville presented a life membership to Mrs. M. Worster, a shut-in member. Sunshine bags were distributed among the members for the summer months. Milby voted \$2 to the Cancer Fund and had a demonstration on First Aid.

Stanstead: Ayer's Cliff had a food sale and is planning another paper drive. Two new members were welcomed. North Hatley is co-operating with the Health Unit and has been successful in obtaining a monthly clinic with medical examination of school children to start in September. An attendance contest was organized and \$10 voted on the purchase price of a piano for the Community Hall. Tomifobia sent two boxes, one containing baby clothing and supplies to Save the Children,



"Any port in a storm." Mrs. MacLachlan seeks shelter during a sudden shower at the annual picnic of the Lochaber W.I.

A supper in connection with the film showing netted \$31.41.

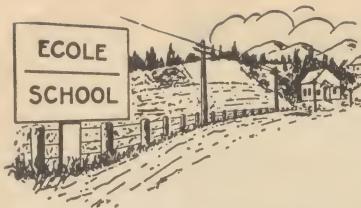
Vaudreuil: Cavagnal members, on invitation from their representative, went to Ottawa and visited the Parliament Buildings. Prizes were given for the best arrangement of flowers. Vaudreuil-Dorion brought their children and enjoyed a picnic lunch on the lawn at the home of their president. Later they were taken on a tour of the barns. A recent garden party and sale was held to aid general funds.

Britain Builds Fertility

Canadians frequently remark upon the high average yields of crops obtained in Britain. They ask how it has been possible to maintain the general level of fertility of soil, which has been so intensively cultivated for many hundreds of years. The answer is that over the centuries, a tradition of **good husbandry** has grown up. This is because until the latter part of the Nineteenth Century, Britain had to be self-supporting in food and because her limited area of land is, even today, her one "immortal asset".

Early agricultural books emphasized the maintenance of fertility, whilst in more recent times, private tenancy agreements placed tenants under an obligation to cultivate the land "according to the Rules of Good Husbandry". These have by the Agriculture Act of 1947 become obligatory on all farmers in Britain, two-thirds of whom are tenants.

The maintenance of the productivity of Britain's soils and any improvements were, until this century, generally left to the landlord and the tenant, but in some instances, principally with regard to arterial drainage, the State did play a part. Britain's more moderate climatic conditions, including the less intensive rainfall and the systems of farming all helped to maintain the organic matter content of the soil and to reduce erosion. Thus, it has never been necessary to adopt such practices as strip cropping or contour working.



LIVING AND LEARNING



Farm Forums in Ohio

(In a recent National News Letter Ruth McKenzie, Editor and Research Director, compares Farm Forum with the "Advisory Councils" of the Ohio Farm Bureau as she saw them on a visit last month).

Some years ago an official of the Ohio Farm Bureau went to Cape Breton to visit the famous Antigonish study groups. He was impressed with what he saw and afterwards he persuaded the Ohio Farm Bureau to organize a study group program. The program was launched in 1936 and the study groups were called "Advisory Councils". This name was chosen with the idea that the groups would act in a "grass-roots" advisory capacity to the Farm organization. The program is now 12 years old and the number of groups has grown to 1500.

An Advisory Council meeting is much like a Farm Forum meeting. The members are farm people like ours and I felt right at home with them. Because it was summertime there were usually some people sitting outside when we arrived at a meeting. When it was time to start they came inside and sat together in one of the two rooms.

The meeting starts with roll-call and the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting. Then the Chairman calls on the discussion leader to take charge of the evening's discussion. Sometimes there are also reports to be made by one or more committee-men. A collection is usually taken and the meeting concludes with lunch (sandwich-buns and iced tea seem popular) and perhaps a game of cards.

There are several ways in which the Council meeting differs from Farm Forum:

1. **No broadcast.** The Councils have no broadcast for their meetings. This seemed to me to be a distinct disadvantage, because it meant the Council meeting started at no fixed hour but just "when all the members got here". Also the discussion seemed slow getting under way. It lacked the stimulus of a broadcast.

2. **Roll-call.** The councils always begin with roll-call. This means each Council has a definite membership, and further the membership is invited and is not open to everyone in the neighbourhood. The idea is that by having an invited membership the group members will all be congenial. The groups are encouraged, however, to help organize new groups in the community.

3. **The Members.** Most of the members are married couples. The young children also come to meetings but

teen-agers have separate Youth Councils of their own.

4. **Reading of the Minutes.** As far as I am aware, most of our Farm Forum groups do not read the minutes or report of their previous meeting. The Advisory Councils do this regularly and I believe it is a good idea. In Farm Forum it would serve as a review of the previous week's discussion and often it would lead right into the discussion of the evening.

5. **Monthly Meetings.** The Advisory Councils meet only once a month, or twelve times a year. Each group sets its own night for meeting, such as the first Monday or the second Thursday. (That is why I could visit three groups in one week.)

6. **Officers of the Council.** In addition to a Chairman and Secretary each Council has a Vice-Chairman and a Discussion Leader and representatives to standing committees of the county Farm Bureau: Legislation, Home and Community (the women's section), and Health.

7. **Finance.** The collection taken at the Council meeting is for the group's own activities. The Council program is financed by the Ohio Farm Bureau at the state and County levels. Each member of the Farm Bureau pays a \$5.00 membership fee annually, and this covers Advisory Council expenses. However non-Bureau members are not excluded from the Councils.

The Council Program

The program of the Advisory Councils is, naturally, tied quite closely to the interests of the Ohio Farm Bureau. For example, every September the group discuss "Resolutions" and each Council forwards a number of resolutions to the head office in Columbus. These resolutions help to shape Farm Bureau policy.

Only 12 topics are discussed in a year (one a month). The year's list of topics is not drawn up in advance as in Farm Forum. One or two topics of international importance are usually included each year. Others may relate to Soil Conservation, Co-operative Insurance, Education, the Rural Church, etc.

The Advisory Council Guide compares with Farm Forum Guide. It is a more expensive production than our Guide—on heavier paper, illustrated with drawings and photographs, and with a great deal of colour. The

study article is usually shorter than ours and is divided into many sections separated by splashes of colour. It is designed to be read at the meeting. Because meetings are a month apart it has not been found practicable to distribute the Guides in advance.

There are no regular questions for discussion as in Farm Forum. Discussion is usually guided however, by questions in the form of "Do you agree or disagree?" A number of statements are then listed. Very often mimeographed pool questions are sent to the groups to be answered.

Study material to supplement the Guide is frequently distributed to the Councils in mimeographed form. This also is read at the meeting (if used). In addition an article on the topic of the month appears in each issue of the Ohio Farm Bureau News.

As in Farm Forum, Councils sometimes pass out of existence. However, the loss that year was only 3 per cent. No doubt the strong county set-up can take a great deal of the credit for the low mortality-rate.

An Experiment in Community Living

The sixth annual School of Community Programmes — now held jointly under the auspices of the Extension Department of Laval University and the Adult Education Service of Macdonald College concluded just at this issue went to press. W. C. Hankinson of the C.B.C. International Service described it over the air as follows:

Laquemac

"Laquemac is a way of life. It is a very real experience in democratic living . . ."

So reads a line from an editorial in the daily news bulletin issued recently at Camp Laquemac.

Well, just what is this way of life and what is Camp Laquemac? On the 17th of August I set out to spend a few days in what I understood was the "sixth annual School of Community Programs", "an intensive ten-day workshop" carried on under the joint sponsorship of two of Canada's greatest universities—McGill University of Montreal and Laval University of Quebec. There would be seminars in Group Work, Community Organization, and Principles of Administration. There would be skill sessions for actual practice in doing the kinds of things which go to make up activity in the community. There would also be recreation.

My first day or two at camp were not reassuring. There seemed to be too much work for such perfect summer days—too few answers to specific problems.

And then Laquemac began to get me. The seminars and skill sessions passed too quickly. The enthusiasm was catching and I came down with a severe case of it.

The one hundred campers represented a wide variety of adult education, social welfare, and other community organizations: University extension, youth organizations, health and agricultural services, cooperatives and unions, the CBC and the National Film Board, and of course

Conclusions

From what I saw of the Ohio Farm Bureau Advisory Councils I would say that their machinery for organizing and maintaining study groups is much more efficient than ours. Perhaps for these same reasons Farm Forum seems to me to have a better educational program than the Advisory Councils. We are not geared to serve one organization. We try to preserve the "forum" idea of an exchange of opinion: and our study material, on the whole, contains more information than theirs. Also we have the great advantage of a radio broadcast.

Regarding discussion questions, I believe two or three pointed questions such as we use in Farm Forum produce better discussion than the "Agree or Disagree" type used by the Councils.

Monthly meetings have one advantage—that of year-round continuity. But our Farm Forum season allows for more topics (20 meetings compared with 12 in Ohio) and there is greater continuity of discussion within the season.

An Experiment in Community Living

the sponsoring universities. Each camper had been chosen because of his community responsibilities; each camper came hoping for some help in solving professional problems. The skill with which the camp had been organized and the intelligent way in which the leaders drew out the best in everyone resulted in an extraordinary variety of thoughtful participation.

But there was something else at Laquemac, even more significant to this camper than the direct help which we did receive in orientating ourselves to our community responsibilities. The Camp was about half French-Canadian. Of these, some few spoke little or no English; of the English campers, some spoke no French when camp opened. The last couple of days there was no one who wasn't saying at least a few words in the language of his new friends. And the bilingual capacity of those who had already studied both languages previously had increased amazingly.

Yet the increase in linguistic ability was only an index of something far more significant. For many of us it was our first experience in living with those of another ethnic group. For Canadians of both French and English origin it proved to be a unique and enlightening experience. Reluctance gave way to acquaintance; acquaintance gave way to friendship; and when it came time to leave camp, it was like the breaking up of a big family with many a promise of renewal of acquaintance at the earliest possible date.

And so, Camp Laquemac was an experience in community living; it was a study period for those who have community responsibilities. But far beyond these was the sowing of a seed of inter-ethnic friendship which, if the growth be properly nurtured, cannot fail to have a smoothing effect on traditionally troubled waters.



THE COLLEGE PAGE

Using Radioactive Materials in Agricultural Research

Radioactive materials, a direct outcome of the intensive research that culminated in the production of the atomic bomb, are coming to the help of research scientists, and workers at Macdonald College are now equipped to carry out studies with the help of these materials.

Plant and animal scientists often need to find out how fast food materials are being taken up and to what part of the plant or animal body they go. Before the introduction of the new materials, the only way of attacking this problem was by chemical analysis. But chemical analysis alone cannot distinguish one lot of a particular food material from another. Let us suppose, for example, that a research worker wants to find out exactly what happens to the phosphorus in superphosphate after it is applied to the soil. How much of the phosphorus from this superphosphate goes into the plant, and how quickly? How much remains in the soil, and into what forms of phosphate does it pass? Chemical analysis could find out how much phosphorus was in the plant, but there would be no way of telling how much of this came from the fertilizer and how much from whatever phosphorus there may have been in the soil before the fertilizer was put on. But if the superphosphate phosphorus is "labelled" by being made radioactive, then it can be traced by means of this radioactivity. Thus it becomes possible to find out quite definitely how much of the phosphorus in the plant comes from the fertilizer and how much from the soil.

In practice, superphosphate which has been made radioactive is added to soil and the crop — oats, for example — is planted in pots in a greenhouse. As the plant grows, the exact amount and location of the phosphorus in any part of the plant can be checked by measuring the radiations that are given off, using the Geiger Mueller counters. These are the same instruments, in principle, that are being used by modern prospectors searching the north country for uranium, the precious substance of the present century.

Even apart from this new possibility of tracing the fate of a particular lot of a food material in a plant or an animal, the new methods are so sensitive that in some

cases they can be used instead of special microchemical methods necessary for dealing with small amounts of material. Sometimes they can be used to trace small amounts of material which it would be extremely difficult to trace in other ways. This has been the case in studies on the fate of cobalt in the animal body, a subject which is of great interest in connection with cobalt deficiency diseases of cattle and sheep.

The same technique is being used at the College to study bone formation in young chicks, and the entomologists are hoping to use some radioactive material to "tag" the DDT molecule, so that they can discover just how DDT kills insects. As times goes on, other studies will be undertaken, and extremely interesting results are confidently expected.

The handling of these radioactive materials is safe provided that the proper precautions are taken. A new laboratory has been specially designed and built for this tracer work, and all the investigations are under the direction of a special committee, composed of members of the different departments carrying on investigations. The chairman of this co-ordinating committee is Dr. W. F. Oliver of the Physics Department.

A.I.C. Scholarship Winner

John H. Mahon, a native of Barbados, B.W.I., a flying officer in the Royal Air Force during the war, and a 1948 B.Sc.(Agr.) graduate of Macdonald College, has been awarded one of the scholarships of the Agricultural Institute of Canada.

He majored in chemistry during his undergraduate years and will continue with graduate work in this subject under his scholarship. His research will be on the amino acid content of field beans, and will be under the general direction of Dr. R. H. Common, Chairman of the Department of Chemistry.

Mahon made an enviable record as an undergraduate, and even with the heavy load of study required of students of chemistry, managed to find time to supervise the laboratory work of junior students, in his capacity as departmental assistant. He is married, and he and Mrs. Mahon are veteran inhabitants of "Diaper Dell."



A U T U M N

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